

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

With such a configuration, the conventional information collecting system requires a prescribed operating procedure to start the terminal. Accordingly, it is difficult for a user unfamiliar with the operation to use the terminal. In addition, since each terminal carries out its ~~processings~~ processing using its own software, the processing results up to that time will be lost if some power trouble such as a power failure or disconnection takes place. Furthermore, since each terminal installs its own application programs, there arises a problem in that many terminals must change their programs [[each,]] to match their versions to those of the server every time the versions are changed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

[[The]] Then, when the user selects the patent search from among the many menu items 26a-26n using the information input device 21, the selected menu information is transmitted from the information converter 22 to the application server 7 of the information processing center 3 through the communication circuit 23 and network 2.